

# **United States Capitol Visitor Center**Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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Taken from atop the south tower crane, this bird's-eye view of the CVC roof deck shows waterproofing activities on the western half of the deck. Also clearly visible is the concrete foundation for the lower portion of the East Front Center Steps. Most of the northern half of the deck (top right quadrant of photo) has received the top concrete slab and the dark zones are areas that has been waterproofed and now await the placement of granite paving stones. Stone masons are expected to begin setting granite curb stones and paving stones in May.

# This Week – Ongoing Work – 4/26/04 through 4/30/04

#### **East Front Plaza Highlights:**

- Concrete placements for the second roof deck slab will continue on the north side. Approximately 90 percent of the north roof deck now has the top slab in place.
- Crews will continue placing and testing waterproofing applications on the roof deck with a focus on the northern half of the deck where stone masons are expected to begin setting granite curb stones and pavers in May.
- Concrete placements will continue on all three levels of the CVC.
- Crews continue to build mechanical spaces, erect formwork, excavate and install utilities throughout the site.

## East Front Extension (Inside the Capitol)

• Crews continue to erect structural steel inside the East Front Extension and continue with demolition activities to clear the way for elevator shafts, escalators, stairwells and new mechanical systems.

#### **Truck Tunnel Construction**

- Dump trucks continue to backfill the tunnel zone above the tunnel roof deck.
- In other areas, crews continue to assemble rebar and formwork for the tunnel walls and roof deck. Concrete pours and waterproofing applications will occur for the next several weeks.

Workers will continue to remove the temporary bridge structure on Constitution Avenue that lies over the new truck
tunnel just east of New Jersey Avenue NW. Once the bridge is removed, crews will backfill the zone, place asphalt for
the road and re-establish sidewalks and curbs. In an effort to avoid impacts to parking, Constitution Avenue has been
reduced from four lanes to three for the six-week restoration period.

## Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- A crew will continue constructing a temporary bridge along the western half of First Street over the excavation zone to allow excavation to occur without disrupting traffic.
- The bulk of excavation near the northwest corner of the LOC building has been completed and crews are now pouring concrete to establish the slab on grade, which lies approximately 20 feet below ground level.



# **East Front Plaza Work**

- Stone masons may begin placing granite curb stones on the north side of the site.
- Crews will continue to waterproof portions of the CVC roof slab, conduct waterproofing tests, and place the second or "topping" slab of concrete throughout the roof deck.
  - Crews will continue to install utilities, build mechanical spaces, erect formwork and place concrete floor slabs for all three below-ground levels of the CVC.



Sequence 2 contractors are busy laying miles of electrical conduit piping within the reinforcing steel for the concrete floor slabs. The conduit must be spaced properly to ensure that there are no significant structural gaps within the concrete slabs.

## **East Front Extension**

• Steel crews will continue to erect steel within the East Front concrete structure. Demolition of structural elements will continue on all levels within the East Front Extension and in the Carriageway below the East Front Center Steps. Demolition of major structural columns will continue inside the East Front transition zone.



The north and south walls of the Congressional Auditorium continue to rise as construction progresses westward toward the facility's main connection with the CVC at the center of the site.

#### **Truck Tunnel Construction**

- Crews will continue to erect formwork, place concrete and waterproof the roof deck and walls in all areas of the truck tunnel construction zone. Close to 70 percent of the concrete for the tunnel is in place.
- Work to restore Constitution Avenue will continue for several weeks and is expected to be completed by Memorial Day.

## Library of Congress (LOC) Tunnel

- Excavation will continue in First Street SE.
- Crews will continue installing a temporary bridge along First Street over the tunnel excavation zone.
- Formwork assembly and concrete placements will continue near the LOC and within the CVC site for the tunnel floor slab and walls.

If you have any questions about the Capitol Visitor Center Project, please contact Tom Fontana, CVC project communications officer, at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aoc.gov. You can read this document and previous editions on the CVC web site at www.aoc.gov.